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Remarks

To 19: Please share attachments as appropriate.

Executive Secretary
2 April 1985

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Executive Flegistry

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March 28, 1985

MEMORANDUM

FROM:

Otto J. Reich

SUBJECT:

Publications on Nicaragua

Enclosed are two publications concerning Nicaragua:

- 1) a pamphlet on <u>Misconceptions about U.S. Policy Toward Nicaragua;</u>
- 2) a secret speech by Comandante Bayardo Arce before the Political Committee of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party.

The pamphlet corrects the most common misconceptions about U.S.-Nicaraguan relations. The U.S. Government sought from the outset of the 1979 overthrow of the Somoza regime to build a positive relationship with Nicaragua's Government of National Reconstruction. The United States gave Nicaragua more humanitarian and economic assistance in the first 18 months than did any other country. The Sandinistas, on the other hand, formed a close alliance with Cuba and the Soviet Union, and funneled armaments and supplies to the Marxist Salvadoran guerrillas. The promises made by the Sandinistas before coming to power--pluralism, non-alignment, respect for human rights, and a mixed economy--have been betrayed.

Comandante Bayardo Arce's revealing speech (tape-recorded without his knowledge and later printed in La Vanguardia of Barcelona, Spain) is representative of attitudes in the Sandinista leadership. It should be noted that Comandante Arce was selected by the Sandinistas to run their electoral campaign and to negotiate with the opposition coalition led by Arturo Cruz before the November 1984 elections. Arce outlined the usefulness of staging "bourgeois" elections and commented candidly on revolutionary internationalism and the consolidation of a one-party state.

